FISCAL NOTE

SB 2647 - HB 2646

March 5, 2006

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires LEAs to use a uniform classification of teachers and administrators by job description in staffing schools and administrative positions together with guidelines for the number and types of administrative positions required for efficient administration of an LEA.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$1,000,000 Increase Local Govt. Expenditures – Exceeds \$1,000,000*

Assumptions:

- The Department of Education indicates that in order to evaluate the number of staff members needed to provide uniformity state-wide, a task force representing Department of Education staff and school staff from LEAs across the state from urban, suburban, and rural school districts would need to be convened to determine at what census level certain staffing positions would be required. The cost of such a task force could exceed \$100,000 to state and local governments depending on the number of meetings and administrative/clerical staff time to accomplish.
- The establishment of standardized job descriptions for positions for public schools and school districts and guidelines for the number and type of each position for each public school based on student census could change the current types and number of positions required of schools.
- Required staffing could cost local governments in excess of \$1,000,000 if required secretaries, bookkeepers, nurses, social workers, attendance personnel, supervisors, administrators, and any other recognized personnel were required of every LEA.
- The increase in state expenditures would be dependent upon the amount of additional BEP funding for local mandates.
- Currently, there is a formulaic calculation in the BEP to generate funding for positions, but these funds can be used discretionally by LEAs. A required staffing plan would remove this local prerogative.
- There is currently in place a consistent code of classification to record the positions held in a local school system.

*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director